

## **Distribution Plan for the Backhaul Alaska Pilot Program 2 Villages January 27, 2020**

**Applicability:** This Plan covers only Pilot 2 Villages. A separate plan is provided for Regional Coordinator hosting entities.

**Background:** Rural Alaska communities lack facilities or landfills for disposal or storage of hazardous waste, but “backhaul” of these materials to appropriate destinations presents multiple economy-scale-challenges for these small and remote populations. Backhaul Alaska is a statewide coordinated system for rural community hazardous waste management being developed to specifically address these challenges. It facilitates and streamlines transportation and brokering, as well as ensures village capacity for safe and compliant staging and packaging.

Real-world testing of the system is taking place through two pilot phases. The 9 Tribes enrolled in the first pilot (“Pilot 1”) used USEPA FY2019 Indian General Assistance Program (GAP) funds to help defray or cover Pilot Program participation costs, which include personnel, and miscellaneous expenses such as supplemental travel, supplies, and administration. The Pilot was completed successfully in November 2019.

Likewise, the 15 Tribes enrolled in the Backhaul Alaska Pilot 2 Program (the “Pilot 2 Villages”) had planned to use FY2020 GAP funds to defray or cover their participation costs. However, this funding source was reduced by USEPA. The success of the Backhaul Alaska Pilot, which is critical to determining costs and many key parameters for the full Program, was left in jeopardy.

The USEPA provided funding to the Denali Commission for the specific purpose of rectifying this situation and averting the withdrawal of participation by the Pilot 2 Villages.

**Total Funding Available for Pilot 2 Communities:** \$150,000

**Number of Villages:** 15

**Amount to be provided to each Village meeting distribution conditions:** \$10,000.

**Payment Plan:** Monthly over ten months, January 2020 to October 2020.

**Contingent upon:** Timely twice-monthly submittal of timekeeping and feedback forms, together termed the “Bimonthly Timekeeping and Feedback Report” in the community funding Participation Agreement, to be executed prior to distribution of funds.

<b>Time period covering:</b>	<b>Submitted by:</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> – 15 <sup>th</sup> of each month	22 <sup>nd</sup> of each month
16 <sup>th</sup> – 31 <sup>st</sup> of each month	8 <sup>th</sup> of each month

**Justification:** Determining local village backhaul program personnel needs and garnering village perspectives on how well the Backhaul Alaska program works and how to improve it is a primary purpose of the pilot phase. Additionally, Villages will be developing and implementing methods to raise

local contributions for the program and it is critical that these lessons learned are shared with all villages. To be part of Pilot 2 and gain the free training, recycling, shipping, and supplies provided, each Pilot 2 Village signed a Program Agreement stipulating that they would submit timekeeping and feedback forms. However, submittals have been inconsistent, and feedback has been sparse. The additional funding at stake should provide an incentive for regular, timely, and complete submittals.

**Remaining Funds:** In the case that a Pilot 2 Village lapses in their submittals, or withdraws, or is dropped from the Pilot Program due to failure to adhere substantively to the Agreement, Zender will develop a plan for the remaining funds allotted to that Village with the Solid Waste Alaska Taskforce. [CG1] The plan will be submitted to the Denali Commission and EPA for approval.

**Effective Date:** The effective date begins January 1, 2020, with the funds distributed for January timekeeping and feedback within 30 days of February 8, 2020 (i.e. 30 days after the Report for the second half of the month is due).